

*Application No. 10/657,707
Amendment dated January 31, 2005
Reply to Office Action of September 29, 2004*

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Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraphs [0004] and [0005] with the following amended paragraphs:

[0004] According to one embodiment of the invention, a power actuator is provided which includes a housing; ~~an~~ having a recessed region and a tubular mount extending from the center of the recessed region. An electric motor is mounted in the housing; ~~with~~ a worm operatively coupled to the motor for driving rotation of the worm about an axis in a first rotational direction; ~~a.~~ A worm gear, in meshing engagement with the worm, ~~and being is rotatably mounted into the housing tubular mount~~ for rotation about an axis substantially orthogonal to the worm axis; ~~a.~~ A camshaft is mounted on the worm gear and ~~having has~~ a rotation axis coincident with the gear axis, ~~the.~~ The camshaft ~~having has~~ a distal end; and an output arm affixed at the distal end of the camshaft.

[0005] The power actuator may be employed as a latch release device. According to this embodiment, the latch release device includes a housing; ~~an~~ having a recessed region and a tubular mount extending from the center of the recessed region. An electric motor is mounted in the housing; ~~with~~ a worm operatively coupled to the motor for driving rotation of the worm about an axis in a first rotational direction; ~~a.~~ A worm gear, in meshing engagement with the worm, ~~and being is rotatably mounted into the housing tubular mount~~ for rotation about an axis substantially orthogonal to the worm axis; ~~a camshaft. A cam is mounted onto the worm gear and having a by an integral depending camshaft so that the rotation axis of the camshaft is~~ coincident with the gear axis, ~~the camshaft having a distal end extending to the exterior of the housing; and a cam affixed at the exterior end of the camshaft, having. Preferably, at least one resilient finger is provided at the distal end of the camshaft in abutting contact with a surface of the gear facing away from the cam to preclude axial withdrawal of the camshaft from the gear aperture. The cam has~~ a surface for engaging a ~~said~~ latch to move the latch from a closed position to a release position as the gear rotates in a first direction from a first position to a second position when driven by the motor.